subsidy would depend on various factors like international prices, tariff policy and demand etc.

HPCL Pipeline In Andhra Pradesh

1194. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4368 given in the Rajya Sabha on 15th May, 1997 and state:

(a) whether an in-depth study has been done on the specific representation in question on the pipeline of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that no reply or clarification has been given to the representation;

(c) whether HPCL sought to clarify matters; and

(d) the number and venue of meeting held by HPCL in this regard in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The matter has been reviewed by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) to ensure that payment of compensation to all concerned are made strictly as per the provisions of Petroleum & Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of ROU in Land) Act, 1962.

(b) and (c) The issue mentioned in the representation were clarified in a detailed reply to the Member of Parliament, who had forwarded the representation.

(d) So far no direct meeting has been held by HPCL in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. HPCL have since been advised to immediately get in touch with the representationist and provide the necessary clarifications required by him.

Vijayawada-Vishakhapatnam Pipeline

1195. SHRI V. HANUMATHA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited made a consolidated list of all farmers and house holders through whose property the proposed Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam pipeline passes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the compensation paid in financial terms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) HPCL have made a list of all owners of land through which the pipeline passes. The pipeline passes mainly through agricultural land, avoiding permanent structures and household properties. There is no acquisition of land in the case of laying of pipelines. As per the Petroleum & Mineral Pipeline (Acquisition of ROU in Land) Act, 1962, only right of use of land is acquired. After the pipeline is buried under the earth, the land is restored back to the owners, with certain conditions, for normal cultivations, etc.

(c) The payment of compensation is made to the Competent Authority as per the provisions of the law. HPCL has already deposited an amount of Rs.23,78,941/—with the Competent Authority for this purpose for lands in Vizag and West Godavari Districts. The Competent Authority has so far disbursted an amount of Rs.5,85,474/—to the farmers.

Governments Decision to Share Profits with Oil Companies

1196. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to give its share of profits to oil companies from the oil field and exploration blocks which were given to the private sector in 1994; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and how much amount is proposed to be given to each oil company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) No such decision has been taken by the Governmen

बिहार में रसोई गैस एजेंसी

1197. **श्री जनार्दन यादव:** क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बिहार में ऐसे जिलों की संख्या कितनी है, जहां अभी तक रसोई गैस की कोई एजेंसी नहीं खुली है,

(ख) क्या रसोई गैस एजेंसी प्राप्त जिलों में उपभोक्ताओं को समय पर रसोई गैस नहीं मिल रही है,

(ग) ऐसे जिलों में, जहां अभी तक ऐसी कोई एजेंसियां नहीं है, कब तक रसोई गैस की एजेंसियां खोले जाने की योजना है, और

(घ) यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री टी०आर० बालु): (क) बिहार में ऐसे तीन जिले है, जहां एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप नहीं है। इनके नाम हैं—पाकुर, गोड्डा और शिवहर।

(ख) तेल विपणन कंपनियों ने यह सूचित किया है कि उनके डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर अपने उपभोक्ताओं की संपूर्ण मांग को पूरा कर रहे हैं। तथापि, जुलाई, 1997 के दौरान मूसलधार वर्षा के कारण बिहार के कुछ जिलों में, क्षेत्र में बाढ़ आने के कारण, कुछ उपभोक्ताओं को रीफिल की पूर्ति में विलम्ब हो गया है। अब स्थिति सुधार गई है।;

(ग) और (घ) पाकुर और गोड्डा जिलों के लिए एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिपों हेतु पहले ही विज्ञापन दिए जा चुके हैं। चयन प्रक्रिया पुनः आरम्भ कर दिए जाने के बाद इन स्थानों पर डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर का चयन किया जाएगा। जहां तक शिवहर का संबंध है, 1996-98 की मसौदा विपणन योजना में एक एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप को शामिल कर लिया गया है। आशय-पत्र जारी करने के बाद डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप आरम्भ करने में सामान्यतया छह महीने से एक वर्ष का समय लगता है।

Projects Undertaken by HPCL

1198. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the various new projects being undertaken by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, presently in the country;

(b) whether such projects are being undertaken without proper cost benefit analysis;

(c) whether it is a fact that some projects underway of HPCL in Andhra Pradesh have been objected to; and

(d) if so, the details of such objections, the source and whether HPCL answered such queries made by economists and others?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Major projects being undertaken by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) in the country are:—

(i) Vizag Refinery expansion by 3 MMTPA;

(ii) Vizag-Vijayawada Pipeline of capacity of 4 MMTPA (approx.);

(iii) Diesel Hydro desulphurisation Units at Vizag and Mumbai Refineries; and

(iv) Mangalore Refinery 9 Petrochemicals Ltd expansion under Joint venture with M/s Indian Rayon & Industries Limited

(b) All these projects are undertaken only after through cost benefit analysis is carried out and their viability is established.

(c) and (d) Representation has come for seeking the clarifications on project details, payment of compensation to the villagers in respect of laying of Vizag-Vijayawada Pipeline, etc. The project has been approved by the Government only after its techno-economic viability was established. The required measures have